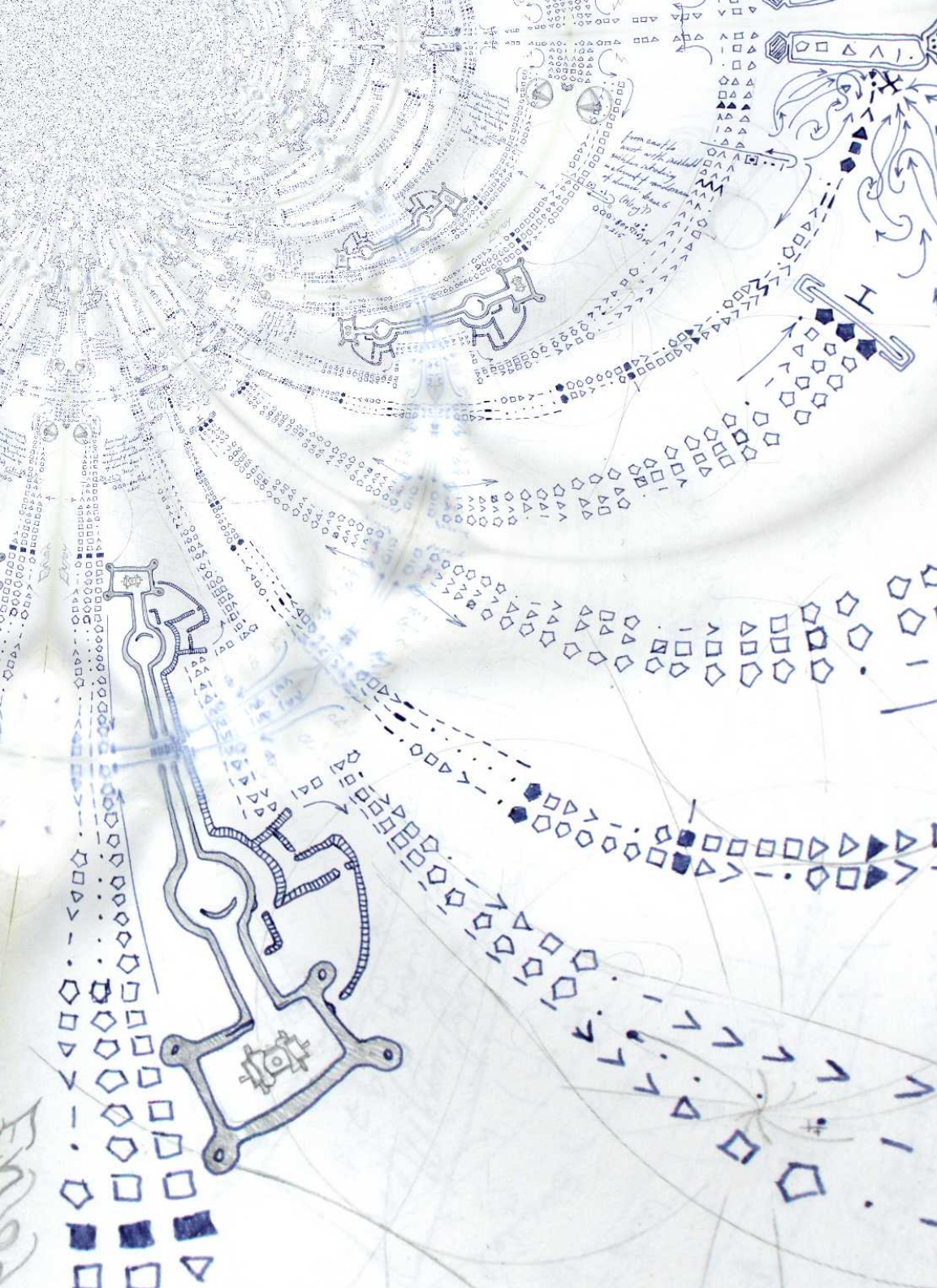


a private gaze
even though he
was built to see
the world this
way, he was also
built to
disregard, to be
free of the way
he was built
to see the world
- Leonard Cohen



Healing & Distance

Global Health Ethics

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2009 . 10 . 2



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How much **education** have you
received in global health?
(formal/informal)

{None} ----- {Tons}

Have you worked or volunteered **abroad**
in “global health”?

{Never} ----- {Many Times}

Have you worked or volunteered
domestically in “global health”?
(in the country of your residence)

{Never} - - - - - {Very often}

How often have you found your work in
“global health” (here & abroad)
to be ethically ... **complicated**?

{Never} - - - - - {Very often}

In general, how confident are you
that your “global health” activities
have a **positive impact**?

{Not at all} - - - - - {Quite certain}







Cambodia-United States Friendship
MEDCAP 2007



Kratie.Mondul Kiri.kampong Chhnang

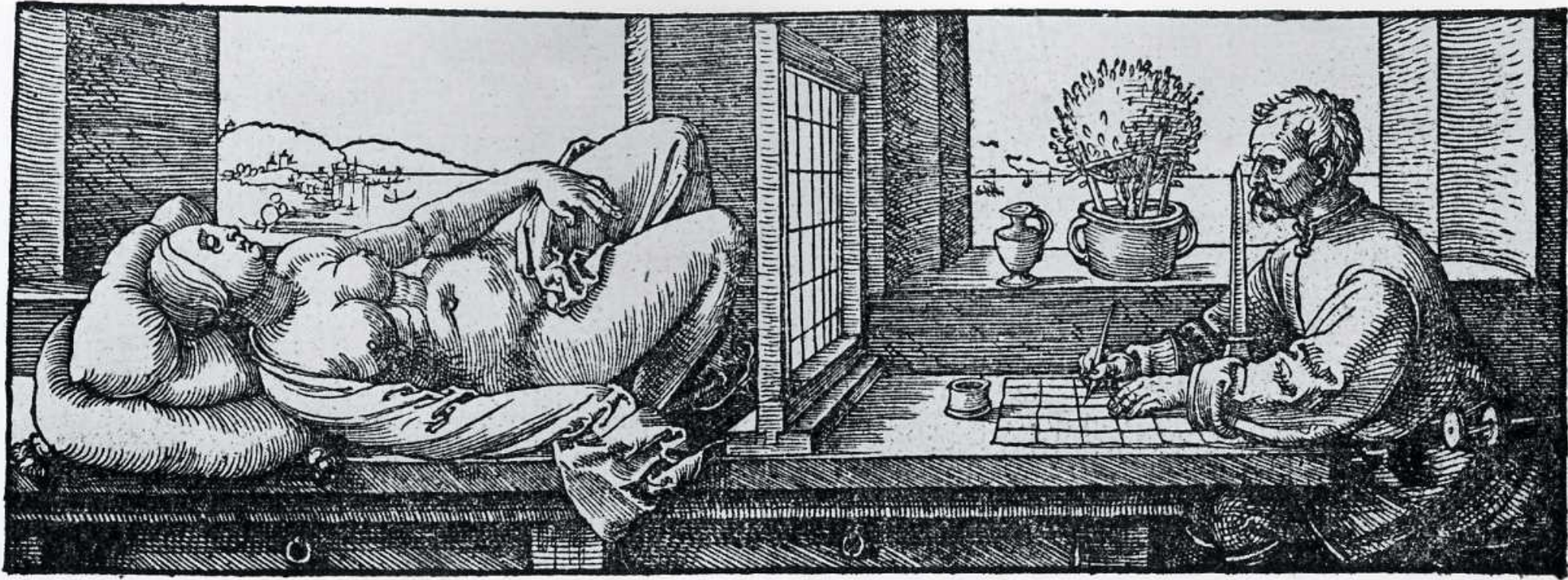








ways of seeing

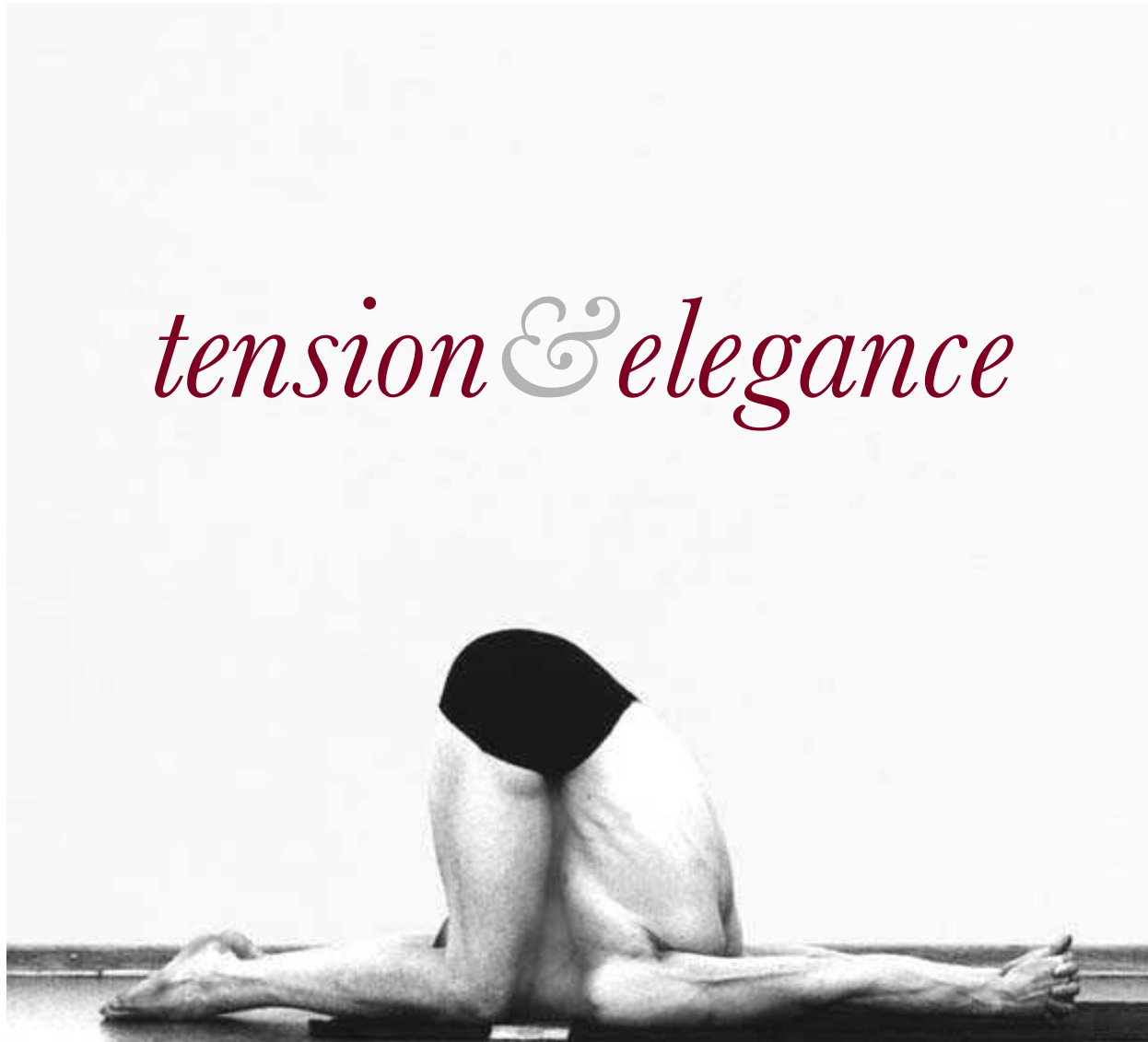


... question ... discomfort ... story ... insight ... discomfort ...

Stories/Questions

standards

tension & elegance





ethical
paralysis

.

.

.

.

.



righteous
seizure

“Something must be done;
anything must be done,
whether it works or not”

- Bob Geldof, *NY Times Editorial* 6/2005

How might we summarize
this in 3 words?







helping

~ You need **help**. You ask for **help**. I **help** you.

~ I see you struggling. I ask if you need **help**. You accept. I **help** you.

~ I suspect you may need **help**. I ask you. You cannot respond (maybe you are unconscious). I do what I decide you need.



helping:
3 stories

I

[Jesus] answered: “... Love your neighbor **as yourself.**”

...“And who is my neighbor?”

In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side...



I

But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

-Luke 10:27-35



II



It wasn't long before sunrise when we headed towards our own nests, not quite disgracefully and not quite with grace. Long and joyous night. We wondered whether any of us would remember much of it. In our state of insobriety we passed a man, more coherent than ourselves, asking for spare change. He was handed a few coins by one of us. The culprit was duly chastised by the rest.

What if he spends it on drink? we kindly asked our friend. *Do you not see that what he needs is real **help** not the **help** he was asking for?*

III

[The] message that we were less than human was repeated over and over. I recall that from time to time [the refugee camp] was shelled and all foreigners working there were taken out to safety. We were left inside. We would often say that the foreigners were like the angels who could fly from danger; greater than ordinary human beings. We on the other hand were less than human, more like the spirits in hell.

- Meas Nee, *Towards Restoring Life in Cambodian Villages*





the
Good
Samaritan
experiment

Princeton
Theological
Seminary





space

time

culture

language

Distance

gender

age

wealth

power

...

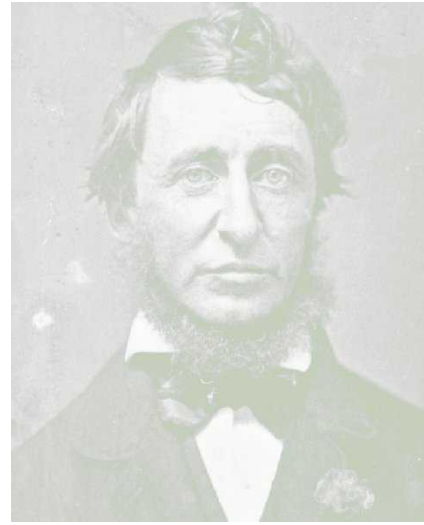
There is no odor so bad as that which arises from goodness tainted. It is human, it is divine, carrion. If I knew for a certainty that a man was coming to my house with the **conscious design of doing me good**, I should run for my life, as from that dry and parching wind of the African deserts called the *simoom*, which fills the mouth and nose and ears and eyes with dust till you are suffocated, **for fear that I should get some of his good done to me**, some of its virus mingled with my blood.

No. In this case I would rather suffer evil the natural way.

A man is not a good man to me because he will feed me if I should be starving, or warm me if I should be freezing, or pull me out of a ditch if I should ever fall into one. I can find you a **Newfoundland** dog that will do as much.

Philanthropy is not love for one's fellow-man in the broadest sense.

- Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*



help

What is our **relationship** to the individuals & populations we are trying to help?

What **seperates** us from them?

Why are we in a position to **give** and they to **receive**?

How does our **helping** effect that relationship? Does it close the **distances** or reinforce them?



space

time

culture

language

Distance

gender

age

wealth

power

...





Is our **way of seeing** the world inherently superior to that of other cultures?

What does **cultural sensitivity** mean in practice? *Polite respect for the amusing but dispensable quaintness of other cultures?*

Are our concepts of **health & health care systems** more effective & powerful in the long-run than other cultures notions of **health & healing**? What can we learn?





INTERNATIONAL

World Death Rate Holding Steady At 100 Percent

JANUARY 22, 1997 | ISSUE 31-02

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND—World Health Organization officials expressed disappointment Monday at the group's finding that, despite the enormous efforts of doctors, rescue workers and other medical professionals worldwide, the global death rate remains constant at 100 percent.

ENLARGE IMAGE

World Mortality Rate



Death, a metabolic affliction causing total shutdown of all life functions, has long been considered humanity's number one health concern. Responsible for 100 percent of all recorded fatalities worldwide, the condition has no cure.

"I was really hoping, what with all

ARTICLE TOOLS



DIGG



FACEBOOK



STUMBLEUPON



TWITTER



REDDIT



EMAIL



PRINT

DUGG

RECENT

POPULAR

FAXED

Pepsi To Cease Advertising

Cat Congress Mired In Sunbeam

[video] Crime Reporter Finds Way Of Linking Warehouse Fire To Depraved Sex Act

Nation Demands Fresh Celebrity Meat

Sexy Career Woman To Take Hot Bath After Stressful Day

Man's Facebook Status Given Book Deal

see more »

ONION STORE

SPECIAL Any 3 T-shirts for \$30 Offer ends October 31st





GRE



?



Sustainability

You find a stranger who is cold, shivering. You can give him a match and he might be warmed for a few seconds; set him on fire and he will be warm for the rest of his life.

- Anonymous

Is the medical model **environmentally sustainable**? What would it look like without non-renewable resources?

Are we supporting the aspirations of other peoples towards our own **environmentally destructive & unsustainable** life styles & institutions?



... these are not dying peoples... the world is not flat, the world remains a rich tapestry... a rich topography of the spirit. **These myriad voices of humanity are not failed attempts at being you, failed attempts at being modern**, they are unique facets of the human imagination, they are unique answers to a fundamental question: **what does it mean to be human and alive?**


... even those of us sympathetic to the plight of indigenous people view them as quaint and colourful but somehow reduced to the margins of history as the “**real world,**” meaning *our world*, moves on. Well the truth is, the 20th century, 300 years from now, is not going to be remembered for its wars or technical innovations, but rather as **the era in which we stood by and either actively endorsed or passively accepted the massive destruction of biological and cultural diversity on the planet...**

Genocide, the physical extinction of a people is universally condemned but **ethnocide**, the destruction of a people's way of life is not only not condemned it is... in many quarters, celebrated as part of the development strategy.

- Wade Davis







Thank You!

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